



# REVIEWS

## BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

### MIRACLE HEALING

by Harald W. Tietze

Harald W. Tietze Publishing, Bermagui, NSW, Australia, 2005

ISBN 1-876173-505 (173pp tpb)

Availability: Harald W. Tietze Publishing Pty Ltd, tel +61 (0)2 6493 4552, website <http://www.wise-mens-web.com>

Australian-based Harald Tietze is a prolific writer and publisher of books on do-it-yourself healing as well as a popular speaker. We've reviewed several of his titles before, covering urine therapy, papaya, kombucha and Earth energies. In his latest, he tackles "miracle healing"—the sort that the medical establishment doesn't accept and generally cares not to examine.

Much of his focus here is on the power of the mind—positive thinking—to effect the healing of diverse diseases. Having a positive mental attitude is also helpful in combination with herbal and homoeopathic treatments, vibrational healing and preventive medicine. Tietze looks at the traditional healing methods of the Australian Aborigines utilising telepathy, spiritual healing, flower power and even eating iron-rich clay from termite mounds; these have a long and successful history predating the arrival of "white man's medicine".

Tietze recounts many cases where urine therapy has healed ailments from allergies and cancers to menopausal symptoms and severe wounds. He also revisits health problems caused by Earth radiation and discusses various alternative therapies such as intuitive healing, laughter, prayer, faith healing,

hypnosis and hands-on healing. He gives tips on how to access the subconscious mind to assist in healing and changing bad habits, and how to use muscle testing (kinesiology) to diagnose imbalances and tailor-make individual treatments.

Tietze presents his facts, case histories and personal anecdotes in a charming, folksy way, making his book accessible for anyone who wants to be easily informed about what they can do for their own health.

### JESUS GOES TO HOLLYWOOD: The Alternative Theories About Christ by William Bramley

Dahlin & Associates, Modesto, CA, 2005

ISBN 0-9755636-0-2 (339pp hc)

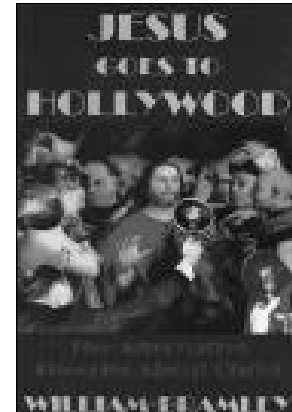
Availability: Dahlin & Associates, PO Box 578688, Modesto, CA 95337-8688, USA, email [coolgeyser@aol.com](mailto:coolgeyser@aol.com)

In his new book, William Bramley (author of the UFO/conspiracy best-seller *The Gods of Eden*) conducts an investigation into Jesus Christ and the range of theories about his life and works that can be supported by some facts or evidence. Behind Bramley's determination to explore this subject is his belief that "Humanity needs to grow up spiritually" in a world where religion is a force for both good and ill, and to do this "we need to gain a better understanding of who our religious founders really were, what they actually taught, and why".

While not examining the works of theologian Barbara Thiering and historian Laurence Gardner—"they involve complex explanations that are best explored by consulting those writings directly"—he has compiled all sorts of provocative and popular theories: including that Jesus never existed, that he was a metaphor for a sacred

hallucinogenic mushroom cult, that he was an Essene, a Buddhist, a Druid, that Jesus was a black man or a redhead, that he married Mary Magdalene and had children, that he was gay, and that he was an "ancient astronaut" who turned up on other continents. Bramley offers commentary both for and against each theory, but largely leaves it to readers to decide for themselves on the validity of the evidence.

Introducing each chapter is a section of Bramley's fictional story about a man who might be Jesus Christ, returning for his so-called Second Coming and being hunted by a Hollywood agent keen on representing him—thus the book's title, *Jesus Goes to Hollywood*. In the appendix, Bramley discusses the Second Coming prophecies in the context of "today's climate of Rapture fever", and points to the Gospel of Luke where Jesus was referring to his return while his apostles were still alive. This is a well-researched compilation that offers alternative views to spark the imagination in these post-*Da Vinci Code* days.



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## CONSCIOUSNESS, INTENT AND THE STRUCTURE OF THE UNIVERSE

by Jeffrey Keen

Trafford Pub., Victoria, BC, Canada, 2005  
ISBN 1-4120-4512-6 (313pp tpb)

Availability: Trafford Publishing, <http://www.trafford.com/robots/04-2320.html>

In his quest to explain how dowsing works, British physicist and businessman Jeffrey Keen turns to science to explore the underlying principles that link consciousness and perception with universal energy fields. He comes up with a speculative qualitative model to describe the structure of the universe and the information field.

Every object, whether animate or inanimate, has an energy field, and in the first part of his book Keen focuses on measuring the dowsable energy fields related to tangible natural objects. Such objects, including stones, crystals, water bodies, plants, animals and humans, lend themselves to experimentation under controlled laboratory conditions. The kind of scientific measurement he utilises can be applied in repeatable experiments and involves fundamental concepts like mass, dimensions, range, pressure, rotation and field interaction.

In the second part, Keen turns his attention to measuring dowsable ley lines, ancient megalithic sites, auras, fields emitted by all life-forms and the creation of dowsable fields by the action of the brain, whether via thinking or visualisation processes.

Keen develops a number of laws based on 30 principles. For example, principle 19 relates to the field strength of dowsable fields, which is proportional to the mass and composition of the source. Likewise, the field strength of dowsable fields is proportional to the maximum range of the dows-

able field. He gives the example of hard igneous rocks having high dowsable field strength, and posits that Stone Age man clearly understood all these phenomena.

With plenty of tables, graphs and equations, Keen expands his case for the structure of the universe being linked to multidimensional geometry. Furthermore, he suggests that what we perceive in our attempts to understand the universe and consciousness is a subset of the information field that is triggered by the intent of what we are seeking. A paradigm-shifting study.

## THE GEOMETRY OF THE SUN GOD

by Keith Squires

Paeon Books, Chelmsford, UK, 2005

ISBN 0-9548489-0-X (308pp tpb)

Availability: Paeon Books,  
<http://www.paeanbooks.com>

The ancient Greeks were relative newcomers in their understanding of geometry, for the principles were well known to earlier cultures going back thousands of years to pre-megalithic times and certainly well before the rise of dynastic Egypt. In *The Geometry of the Sun God*, Keith Squires examines similarities between Stonehenge in Wessex, England, and the pyramids of Giza, Egypt, and concludes that the builders of both these widely separated megaliths utilised the mathematics of the square root of three. He progresses his thesis by suggesting that such geometrical principles were at the core of their religions. And while Stonehenge may have had a lunar orientation initially, he says, it was reconfigured for Sun God worship.

As well as providing detailed mathematical surveys of Stonehenge and the pyramids, Squires presents an overview of the pre-

megalithic or mesolithic world that developed following the end of the last ice age. He discusses such theories as geographic dispersal and cultural diffusion, taking into account the archaeological evidence from a number of cultures and religious sects. Post-ice-age melting, the occasional great flood as well as cosmic catastrophes played their parts in the movements of populations.

Squires covers competing theories about the purposes of the megalithic monuments, whether astronomical, mathematical or religious, or all of these and more. The existence of ancient trade routes helped the sharing of knowledge, and he concludes that the Stonehenge builders influenced the pyramid constructors—not the other way around.

Along the way, Squires lashes out at blinkered archaeologists who have little appreciation for the sophisticated knowledge of proportion and geometry that was so obviously understood by the ancients and encoded in their monuments, measurements and religious belief systems. An interesting reappraisal of ancient blueprints.





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## THE ORACLE:

### A Day by Day Book of Wisdom by Michael J. Roads

Roadsight Pty Ltd, Nambour, Qld, 2005  
ISBN 0-9758476-0-0 (386pp hc)  
Availability: Roadsight P/L, PO Box 778,  
Nambour Qld 4560, Australia, email  
roadsway@bigpond.com, website  
http://www.michaelroads.com

Home truths with a capital T abound in this book of aphorisms by spiritual change agent Michael J. Roads. It's so named after a joking interaction between Michael and his brother Christopher, who coined "The Oracle" moniker. This was a year after Michael's life-changing experience of timelessness, of "continuity of Self", that launched a thousand talks on the speaking circuit of life, not to mention visionary books such as *Journey into Nature* and *Into a Timeless Realm* (reviewed in 2/05, 3/03).

Michael J. Roads (yes, our editor's dad) is committed to helping in the mastery of daily life, and to assist us on our path he has come up with snippets of wisdom for every day of the year as well as a timely thought to introduce each month. The entry for the day I write this review, January 13, is: "When you trust Self, negative probabilities are released while positive probabilities are empowered". So far, so good! Below this aphorism, as with all throughout the book, is further explanation—in this case, a paradox: that you must trust Self before you can make a real choice to trust. Roads says the book is meant to be inspirational, even catalytic, opening up the reader in "a subtle caring way" with less resistance from the subconscious programming of self denial. A common theme is that anything you want to change has to be *lived* to be actualised.

## JASON, MY INDIGO CHILD:

### Raising a Multidimensional Star Child in a Changing World

by Ann Andrews

Wild Flower Press, Columbus, NC, 2005  
ISBN 1-930724-09-8 (297pp tpb)  
Availability: Wild Flower Press, website  
http://www.5thworld.com

One of the unusual phenomena of our times is the arrival into our world of so-called "indigo" or "star" children, who may be spiritually advanced but seem to hold the hopes of many supporters that they're here to help humanity progress to the next level in our evolution. (See our *Twilight Zone* report last issue on a Russian indigo boy.)

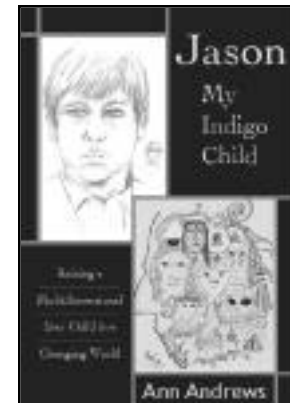
This book presents the story of one of these special children, Jason Andrews, who is now 21 years old. It is written by his mother, Ann Andrews, who wrote her first book, *Abducted*, in 1998 to document the 12 years of paranormal experiences that she and her family went through before accepting that Jason had been an alien abductee from an early age (Ann also claims to be a multiple abductee). The strange experiences—and, in more recent years, the black helicopter visits—continue to this day. At 18, Jason revealed to his parents that he is a "walk-in" who entered the body of their human baby who died at birth, but then he adds that we're all "extraterrestrials"!

Living in the English countryside, Jason had terrible fears from his abduction experiences but by his early teens had come to realise his ET heritage. According to his mother, when he was four, Jason blurted out advanced mathematical terms and huge numbers in a trance-like state during a severe storm. In his boyhood he wrote pages of strange symbols, and as a young

teenager he could be heard conversing with a "visitor" in a language unknown to his parents (examples are not given).

Apparently Jason has advanced psychic abilities, being able to astral travel, teleport, heal and see into the future. He has a commitment to the unconditional love of the Universe, and says he often transports himself to accidents or situations involving mass deaths to conduct urgent healings or help souls find their way to the next dimensional existence. He says he assisted in the aftermath of the Twin Towers disaster (which he foresaw) and the Indian Ocean tsunami (which he believes was set off underwater by a bomb). In his own chapter in the book, Jason states that the Illuminati already have total control (as they did back in Atlantean days) and it's too late to stop them. Drastic Earth changes are inevitable, but we'll survive—even if we pass beyond the physical.

Andrews divulges her personal stories, hopes and fears in this unusual book. Sceptics, of course, would demand more supporting evidence for all these claims.



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## THE BOOK OF THE SOUL: Rational Spirituality for the Twenty-first Century by Ian Lawton

Lawton Publishing, Southampton, 2004  
ISBN 0-9549176-0-X (306pp tpb)  
Availability: <http://www.ianlawton.com>

In our last issue we ran Ian Lawton's article "Past Lives, Future Lives and the Nature of Time". Lawton is the author of *Genesis Unveiled* (see NEXUS 10/01) and co-author of *Giza: The Truth* (7/01), and despite his track record he had to self-publish his latest work, *The Book of the Soul*, as his previous publisher (Virgin) wouldn't commit itself to a book about spirituality! This well-edited book has a wealth of mind-boggling information about the journey of the soul that is relevant to a wide readership.

Lawton was an atheist until something was triggered in him a few years ago that led him to research past life regression with himself as the subject. But it was his inherent scepticism that helped him develop the concept of "rational spirituality". It encompasses a logical, coherent approach to understanding the soul's journey, supported by scientific evidence, the work of many inspired psychotherapists and their willing subjects as well as by age-old traditions.

A broad purview is covered—from near-death experiences, past-life regressions, future-life progressions and children who remember their last lifetime, to karmic evolution, soul energy division and spirit possession. The sections on past-life reviews in the "interlife" period as well as life plans and choices are especially compelling, with Lawton's analysis of soul groups, the akashic library and etheric-level councils overseeing reviews of lifetimes and making

plans for the next ones. One amazing notion is that part of our soul energy, when we are in a present lifetime, is retained in the etheric realm to assist in interlife planning involving other souls with whom we may be sharing a journey which may not come to pass until a future time period!

Lawton's efforts are indeed commendable, not only in distilling the findings of a number of pioneers in the field but in fostering a worldview that establishes our reality beyond mere materialism and in offering guidelines for individual soul progress.

## GNOSIS

by Philip Gardiner

Radikal Books, Underwood, UK, 2005  
ISBN 1-9041260-4-9 (281pp tpb)

Availability: **Australia**—Gary Allen Book Distribution, tel (02) 9725 2933; **UK**—Gazelle Book Service, tel 01524 68765; <http://www.philipgardiner.net>

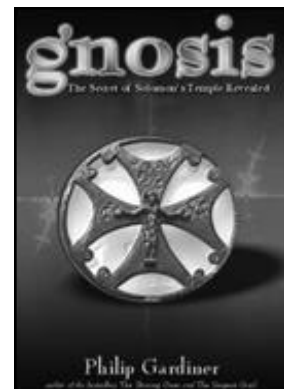
In his travels around the world exploring archetypal artefacts, myths and symbolism, Philip Gardiner has gained much insight into esoteric knowledge. In his previous book *The Serpent Grail* (co-authored with Gary Osborn; reviewed in NEXUS 12/06), he uncovered what he believes to be a serpent-based cult, traceable to ancient Sumeria and earlier cultures, which involved the consumption of a concoction of snake blood and venom.

In *Gnosis*, he explores the hidden truths at the heart of the serpent or snake cults, which are linked with magic and myth in almost every culture whether Australian Aboriginal, Ethiopian or Indian. In the latter especially, the concept of *kundalini*—the energy which travels up the spine via the seven chakras or energy centres, intertwined by the "energy

serpents" *ida* and *pingala*—is the secret to achieving enlightenment. It is the font of true knowledge, or gnosis, and Gardiner believes it has been at the core of secret societies through the ages, including the Knights Templar and Freemasons.

But how to achieve this gnosis? The traditions and rituals handed down by Masonry, for instance, are teaching devices aimed at the individual achieving enlightenment, but Gardiner argues that the Temple of Solomon—the First Temple—never existed as bricks and mortar. King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba were not real historical people but existed in an esoteric sense: their union represented a balance between male and female energies. The true Temple is built by *us* and is *us*, he concludes.

Backing up his argument, Gardiner refers to a number of other esoteric traditions including Hermeticism, Buddhism and Sufism, as well as the etymology of many languages which gives clues to the mystical secrets. The appendices include a detailed glossary of terms, a timeline of snake worship and photo images that support his case.





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## T. LOBSANG RAMPA: NEW AGE TRAILBLAZER

by Karen Mutton

E-published by Karen Mutton © 2005

ISBN n/a (177pp, e-book)

Availability: Website <http://www.tuesdaylobsangrampa.com>

If Karen Mutton's e-book and two-part article commencing this issue are anything to go by, it's time to reconsider the writings of Tuesday Lobsang Rampa. In 1955 he penned the first of his 19 books, *The Third Eye*. He declared himself to be a Tibetan high lama who had transmigrated into the ailing body of the willing Cyril Hoskin, said to be the son of a Devonshire plumber.

In this reassessment of Rampa's influence, Karen Mutton analyses his body of work which helped "trailblaze" the way for a Buddhism revival and the birth of the New Age movement. His books opened up awareness of Tibetan spiritual and cultural traditions, as well as of horrors perpetrated by the Chinese Communists—many years before the world's media were reporting on them. Karen has also consulted people who knew Rampa, including his faithful secretary and companion Sheelagh Rouse, and utilised newspaper reports as well as memoirs from supporters and critics alike. In addition, she refers to several "unauthorised" works attributed to T. Lobsang Rampa.

The subject of "walk-ins" is almost commonplace these days, but Rampa seems to have been way ahead of his time in this regard. Although, as Karen explains, his writings were derided by oriental scholars as well as Tibetan religious leaders, they inspired a generation or two with accounts of subterranean cities, the Akashic records, advanced medical procedures, auras, yogic

breathing, ESP, reincarnation, UFOs, yetis, antediluvian civilisations, time capsules, journeys to Venus, cataclysms and more.

From her research, Karen concludes that Rampa probably was who he said he was. His descriptions of old Lhasa, for instance, were very accurate, as can be seen in the rare maps and photos included within. That so much of what he said and wrote cannot be proved means that Rampa is bound to stay mysterious. Yet his messages are now much clearer, thanks to this detailed study.

## HEAVENLY LIGHTS

by Dr Joaquim Fernandes and Fina d'Armada

EcceNova Editions, Victoria, BC, 2005

ISBN 0-9735341-3-3 (264pp tpb)

Availability: EcceNova Editions, Canada,

tel +1 (250) 595 8401, website

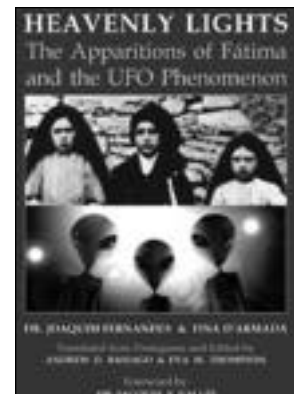
<http://www.eccenova.com>

The famous apparition encountered at Fátima in Portugal in 1917 by three children tending sheep was unlikely that of the Virgin Mary, as is popularly believed, but a hologram of an alien beamed down from a hovering UFO. This is the conclusion of authors Dr Joaquim Fernandes and Fina d'Armada, two Portuguese historians who have been researching and writing about the Fátima incident since 1978 when they gained access to secret archives at the Sanctuary of Fátima. They've co-written three books, and this one, *Heavenly Lights*, was first published in Portuguese in 1995.

The authors go back to the eyewitness accounts and reports in local newspapers, and suggest that the apparitions and incredible phenomena have an extraterrestrial origin. Lúcia, the eldest of the three children, never said she saw "Our Lady", but a small,

beautiful young lady who communicated to her without speaking. The authors discuss the physical aspects reported from the first incident on 13 May to the last on 13 October 1917, including the lady's physical attributes and wardrobe, and lightning, buzzing, thunder, bizarre clouds, luminous objects, raining angel hair and odours associated with the incidents. They broaden their narrative with discussion of the similarities with phenomena reported in UFO/ET encounters.

A significant part of the book is devoted to the phenomena of "the Miracle of the Sun", which happened at the last "visitation" and was observed by 50,000 people. Yet, while most eyewitnesses believed they saw the Sun "dancing" in the sky, a small number of people said they saw a spinning silver disc hovering and moving about. The authors, who have done a statistical analysis of all the eyewitness reports, hope their book will encourage ufologists and religious researchers alike to re-examine the Fatima incident. While they don't go into the so-called "three secrets", they provide plenty that sheds light on this elusive mystery.



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## THE YES MEN:

### The True Story of the End of the World Trade Organization

by Andy Bichlbaum, Mike Bonanno and Bob Spunkmeyer

Penguin Group, 2005 (first published by The Disinformation Company Ltd, 2004)  
ISBN 0-14-300487-5 (191pp tpb)  
Availability: <http://www.penguin.com.au>



This hilariously subversive book documents the "identity correction" stunts of anti-corporate activists Andy Bichlbaum and Mike Bonanno who, having set up a hoax GATT/WTO website with their support team just prior to the 1999 Seattle "Ministerial", found themselves receiving and accepting invitations to mainstream conferences and prime-time interview spots as World Trade Organization spokespeople.

For the most part, whether in Austria, speaking before international trade lawyers, or in Finland at a textile trade globalisation conference, Andy and Mike—The Yes Men—conned their audiences with their outrageous pro-market-liberalisation speeches and antics. At the latter event, disguised as keynote speaker Dr Hank Hardy Unruh, Andy had his suit ripped off by Mike to reveal a gold lamé leotard—the so-called Management Leisure Suit comprising the computer-tipped Employee Visualization Appendage which he then inflated to its full phallic proportions. Its absurd purpose was for controlling workers by way of electrical impulses, but the audience barely batted an eyelid—although one woman did comment later that this "smart" textile had a tad too much male perspective. The photo sequences reproduced here have to be seen to be believed (there's also *The Yes Men* film, which would have to be a must-see).

In the final foray documented in these pages, The Yes Men took a different approach at a Certified Practising Accountants lunch in Sydney in May 2002. Andy spoke out about the injustices of the international marketplace and declared that the WTO was to be disbanded and replaced by the Trade Regulation Organization, with

its basis being the United Nations Charter of Human Rights. Most of the audience in fact welcomed hearing the hard-hitting facts, and a press release was distributed worldwide before the hoax was discovered.

The book features funky graphic treatments throughout, as well as an appendix with key resources for follow up. The Yes Men and their team encourage citizens around the world to stand up for human rights and democracy over global corporate tyrants. More power to them—and to us!

## ORACLE OF THE ILLUMINATI

by William Henry

Adventures Unlimited Press, Illinois, 2005  
ISBN 1-931882-52-5 (251pp tpb)  
Availability: NEXUS offices; Adventures Unlimited, website <http://www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com>

In his follow-up book to *Cloak of the Illuminati* (see 11/03), investigative mythologist William Henry explores the secret codes, symbologies and stories of ancient civilisations such as the Egyptian, Sumerian and Assyrian that allude to such advanced technologies as stargates and magic cloaks for accessing the cosmos via a "stairway to heaven". An illustration he uses, superimposing the Abydos Temple pillar and the Ark of the Covenant on the human body, shows a chakra match that highlights the quest for enlightenment.

Henry takes his *Cloak* discussion further by suggesting that the US Pentagon, in its latest multibillion-dollar project to create a "super soldier", is altering the human body with nanotech and biotech and creating a "super cloak" that could render a soldier all but invisible on the battlefield. Indeed, it will improve human performance to such an extent that man will become like the gods.

This "illuminated" state of mind and body is what the ancients and the later Gnostics sought. One of the embodiments was in the Sumerian King Nimrod, who ruled the world in his "garment of light"—not unlike the biblical Joseph's "coat of many colours".

The ancients were also aware of periodic emissions affecting Earth from the centre of the Milky Way galaxy. They utilised what Henry calls a "Cosmic G-Spot Stimulator" and special blue stones that facilitated the connection with the planetary dodecahedron, our "Ship of Life". The "Big Arcane Secret", he says, is that the ancients had a method for transforming human consciousness to the level of "oracle", increasing the spiritual vibration as well as the body's innate self-healing abilities via "the pineal gland that ignites the 12 cranial nerves".

There's serpent symbolism galore in this fascinating glimpse into ancient high-tech knowledge and modern frontier research.



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## THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE WEST: The Influence of Secret Organisations on Western History from the Renaissance to the 20th Century by Nicholas Hagger

O Books/John Hunt Publishing, Ropley,  
Hampshire, UK, 2005, www.O-books.net  
ISBN 1-905047-04-5 (592pp tpb)

Availability: **Australia**—Brumby Books, tel  
(03) 9761 5535; **NZ**—Peaceful Living, tel  
(07) 571 8105; **UK**—Orca Book Services,  
tel 01202 665432; **USA**—NBN, tel 1800  
462 6420

If you think that the history of Western civilisation is all about progressive leaps and bounds, with Utopian visions often ending in wars, then think again. Nicholas Hagger has produced an enticing narrative which suggests that all revolutions have occult agendas and are hardly the result of left vs right factional fighting let alone disempowered peoples rising up against their religious, kingly or political oppressors.



In *The Secret History of the West*, he analyses the roots and histories of large and small revolutions since the Renaissance.

The first part, broadly defined as the Protestant Revolution, includes the activities of the Cathars, the anti-papists, the counter-reformationists, the Puritans, the Rosicrucians, the supporters of the so-called Glorious Revolution and much more.

The second part, titled Towards a Universal Republic, considers the protagonists behind the American, French and Russian revolutions as well as the British, German and Italian imperialist revolutions.

At the end of each section, Hagger provides summaries of the revolutionary dynamics, identifying those heretical occult visionaries and interpreters behind them, those who originated the occult revolution, those who gave intellectual and political expression and interpretation to it, and those involved in physical consolidation. For example, in the case of the Imperialist Revolution of 19th-century Britain, Adam

Weishaupt and his Illuminism (a consolidation of Sionist and Templar occultism) provided the vision interpreted by Mayer Amschel Rothschild, and was given intellectual expression by Palmerston and Disraeli, political expression in the creation of the Second British Empire through Salisbury and Rhodes, and physical consolidation via the Boer War and the First World War.

Hagger courageously covers a broad territory (a detailed index would have been helpful), with a stunning array of "heretical" sects that have shaped and continue to shape our world behind the scenes. He sets the tone for the companion volume to this book, *The Syndicate: The Story of the Coming World Government*, which concentrates on the elite movers and shakers who are eyeing up the new millennium.

## CONVERSATIONS ON THE EDGE OF THE APOCALYPSE

by David Jay Brown

Palgrave Macmillan, UK, USA 2005

ISBN 1-4039-6532-3 (270pp hc)

Availability: Palgrave Macmillan,

<http://www.palgrave.com>

This is the third book in its genre compiled and edited by David Jay Brown, and like its predecessors—*Mavericks of the Mind* and *Voices from the Edge*—it features interviews with cutting-edge thinkers who are creating new paradigms that hold promise for our progress in the 21st century.

Brown opens his introduction with the statement that "The future has never looked brighter or more bleak"—which is applicable in so many areas of human endeavour. Reflecting on the future evolution of the human race and the mystery of consciousness, he poses questions on the survival of humanity and of consciousness after death, on apocalypse versus renaissance, and on our place in the Universe.

Commenting on these great questions of our times are such luminaries as Kary Mullis on chemistry and the mind field, Candace Pert on molecules of mind and body, Rupert Sheldrake on psi experiments, the late John Mack on alien encounter therapy, and Ray Kurzweil on designing higher intelligence.

Douglas Rushkoff discusses bio-media theory, Robert Anton Wilson philosophises on quantum sociology and neuropolitics, Deepak Chopra gives his take on quantum spirituality, and Peter Russell expands on his "Global Brain" thesis.

Brown has a way of extracting the best out of his interview subjects, and in the process he and his contributors provide the reader with alternative ways of navigating through our current quagmire of war, terror and disaster into a new world full of human potential and purpose. There's still hope!

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## DVDs

Selected by Duncan Roads

### PYTHAGORAS, PENTAGRAMS & THE PHI RATIO

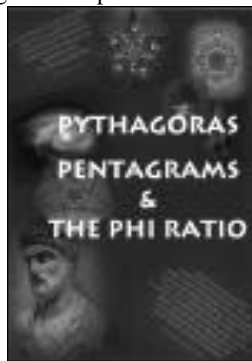
presented by Rev. Dr. S. D'Montford

© 2005 Shambhalla Awareness Centre, PO Box 76, Mascot NSW 1460, Australia, tel +61 0410 582295, email shambhalla@yahoo.co.uk, website <http://www.shambhalla.org>

Five hundred years before Christ, the Greek philosopher Pythagoras was performing similar miracles to those ascribed to Jesus. He healed the sick and the blind, and raised people from the dead. He ushered in moral and political reforms and laid the foundations for Western music, geometry, mathematics, society, politics, ethics and spirituality. Yet today he is mostly remembered for the right-angled triangle. What kind of man was

Pythagoras? What were his teachings at his mystery school at Crotona? Can this ancient knowledge benefit us today?

This DVD is a presentation of a discourse by Dr Shé D'Montford at the Theosophical Society's Blavatsky Lodge in Sydney in 2004. Overall the video quality is good. It runs for about 95 minutes and contains wide-ranging information on many subjects, from Vedic mathematics, sacred geometry and Altai Himalayan shamanistic knowledge to the life of Pythagoras. All in all, this is a very interesting presentation.



### MARK THOMAS COMEDY SHOW

© 2005 Undercurrents, UK (117mins)  
Produced by Undercurrents, Old Telephone Exchange, Pier Street, Swansea SA1 1RY, UK, [www.undercurrents.org](http://www.undercurrents.org)

In crystal-clear sound and vision, this UK TV comedian reveals the inside story on how he upset the US Secret Service by putting a bounty on the life of President Bush. Mark Thomas also displays how he obtained police surveillance images of himself. Watch the DVD and find out why the funny man was forced to sing for his life underneath a busload of East London arms



dealers. See him dodge wildly as he takes potshots at fox-hunters, advertisers and a host of multinational corporations.

Bonus extras on the DVD include *Reach for the Sky*, a 40-minute film exploring the activism against UK aviation expansion; and the award-winning *Globalisation and the Media*, a 24-minute doco analysing both the mainstream and alternative media coverage of protests and the "war on terror".

Left-wing underground humour and commentary at their best!

### NUTRITION RULES!

#### Guidelines For A Disease Free Life presented by Graeme Sait

© 2005 Soil Therapy Pty Ltd, Australia (87mins; also available on PAL-VHS)  
Available from Nutri-Tech Solutions Pty Ltd, PO Box 338, Eumundi Qld 4562, Australia, <http://www.nutri-tech.com.au>

This DVD features Nutri-Tech Solution's founder Graeme Sait speaking at the 2004-05 Woodford Folk Festival in Queensland, Australia. In his presentation, Graeme discusses diet-related health issues and the secrets of supplementation.

The statement "we are what we eat" becomes more poignant when we realise that much of what we eat is sub-standard crap. Discover the things to avoid and the things to embrace in this highly informative offering.

Topics include: counter-ing sugar sickness with stevia; the problems with GM foods; the microwave menace; food processing as an

exercise in nutrient removal; sub-clinical malnutrition; the mechanics of illness; tips on key supplements for good health; halting heart disease; the hormone link to longevity; the secrets of selenium; testosterone as much more than a sex hormone; homocysteine, the silent killer; and more.

As far as watchable quality goes, it is always hard to get a good documentary out of a lecture presentation, especially one at a folk festival—but fear not! Graeme and his team have applied their usual professional touch, so this is a great presentation.







# REVIEWS

## MUSIC

Reviewed by Richard Giles

### LAMP FALL

by Cheikh Lô

World Circuit Ltd, UK, 2005 (52mins)

Distributors: **Australia**—MRA

Entertainment, tel (07) 3849 6020; **UK**—

World Circuit, tel 01689 870622, web-site <http://www.worldcircuit.co.uk>

Cheikh Lô began recording *Lamp Fall*, his third album, five years ago in Dakar in his native Senegal, where he laid down the basics. He added more in London, and then travelled to Bahia, Brazil, where he met up with local guitarists and the famous carnival and cultural group Ilê Aiyê. Lô's swooping vocals, Ilê Aiyê's powerful drums, a peppy trombone and the unique *tama* drum (Senegalese talking drum) make for a fearsome dose of Afro-Brazilian groove as well as some laid-back Cuban and reggae styles. The CD captures Cheikh Lô's spiritual beliefs and politics along with his unique voice.

### ASIAN LOUNGE

by various artists

Putumayo, USA, 2005 (51mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—MRA, tel (07) 3849 6020; **UK**—Putumayo, tel 07759

600495; **USA**—Putumayo World Music, tel 800 955 9588, [www.putumayo.com](http://www.putumayo.com)

Over the past 10 years, DJs across the globe have been mixing music from Asian cultures such as Indian, Japanese, Pakistani and Indonesian and creating unique compositions. The Putumayo label has recorded a number of these Asian-Western fusion DJs and musicians in a project to bring Asian ambient electronica and mixed fusion music to the world. *Asian Lounge* features tracks from Nitin Sawhney, Prem Joshua, Ancient Future, the Bidhu Orchestra, Bali Lounge and Deepak Chopra, among others, in a fine, ambient collection.

### CHAKRADANCE

by various artists

Daily Tonic, Australia, 2005 (55mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—New World Music,

tel (02) 9565 4522; **UK**—NWM, tel

01986 891600; **USA**—NWM, tel 800

771 0987, [newworldmusic.com](http://newworldmusic.com)

Compiled by Leigh Wood and Natalie Southgate, *Chakradance* has a selection of tracks, each of which is in synch with one of the seven chakras—the base, through to the sacral, solar plexus, heart, throat, third eye and crown chakras. Selections are from Mystical Sun, Cheb i Sabbah, Wally Brill, Mayko and MIDIVAL Punditz. I note a strong preference for music from artists on

the Six Degrees label, which NEXUS often reviews. This is a very "free range" CD where you can do your own thing along with the music and balance your chakras at the same time. A bonus!

### EARTH – Elements Series

by Peter Kater

Real Music, USA, 2005 (60mins)

Distributors: **Australia**—New World

Music, tel (02) 9565 4522; **USA**—Real

Music Records, tel (415) 331 8273,

website <http://www.realmusic.com>

Peter Kater is well known for a string of ambient hits and is a Grammy award winner. This new CD series was inspired by the birth of his son in January 2005. *Earth* is one of four albums, each resonating with the sounds of an element—fire, earth, air, water. Kater plays piano and synthesiser together with Mike Hamilton on guitar and Richard Hardy on bamboo and native American flutes plus saxophones. With this quality series, Kater has captured a place of balance, trust and intuition while offering a sense of the wonder of the natural world.

### MUSIC FOR CROCODILES

by Susheela Raman

Narada Prodn, USA, 2005 (54mins)

Distributors: **Aust**—MRA; **UK**—Virgin,

tel 020 89646000; **USA**—Narada, tel

(414) 961 8350, <http://www.narada.com>

Born in London in 1973 to parents from southern India, Susheela moved with her family to Australia when she was very young. Singing southern Indian classical music as a teenager, she later branched out into the blues. In 1995 she went to India to study with Shruti Sadolikar, one of the greatest living Hindustani vocalists. Since then she's released two classics, *Salt Rain* and *Love Trap*, and this, her third album, has mostly a jazz-influenced style with southern Indian overtones. The closing track "Leela" could become a classic soulful rock number.

